

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 03068 011711Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EURE-00 /077 W

----- 130052

P 011530Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4555

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE BEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3068

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY

SUBJECT: GOC FOREIGN MINISTER DERIDES U.S. CYPRUS POLICY

1. ON SEPT. 30 GOC FOREIGN MINISTER JOHN CHRISTOPHIDES LEFT CYPRUS FOR NEW YORK TO ATTEND UNGA. ON HIS DEPARTURE HE MET WITH THE PRESS. HIS RESPONSE TO ONE PRESS INQUIRY, ON U.S. CYPRUS POLICY, MADE HEADLINES IN THE CYPRUS PRESS. THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE RELEASE ON THE QUESTION FOLLOWS:
"IN ANSWER TO A REMARK THAT DR. KISSINGER IN A STATEMENT AFTER HIS MEETINGS WITH THE GREEK AND TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTERS RECOMMENDED MODERATION, MR. CHRISTOPHIDES SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING ITS FRIENDSHIP WITH BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. TO THIS END, IT WAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 03068 011711Z

FOLLOWING A POLICY OF CARESSES TOWARDS ANKARA IN THE

BELIEF THAT IT WOULD THUS CONVINCE ANKARA TO MAKE CERTAIN CONCESSIONS ON CYPRUS. THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, BELIEVED THAT ONLY WHEN TURKEY FOUND HERSELF FACE TO FACE WITH HARD REALITIES AND EFFECTIVE PRESSURES WERE EXERCISED ON HER BY THOSE POWERS CAPABLE OF DOING SO, WOULD SHE MAKE SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS. MR. CHRISTOPHIDES ADDED THAT HE WOULD UNDERLINE THIS VIEW TO DR. KISSINGER WHEN THEY MEET IN NEW YORK."

2. PRO-MAKARIOS AND LEFTIST NEWSPAPERS ON OCTOBER 1 HEADLINED FONMIN'S ASSERTION THAT U.S. FOLLOWS A "POLICY OF CARESS" TOWARDS TURKEY. MORE CONSERVATIVE PAPERS PROMINENTLY CARRIED HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE BUT DID NOT FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE "POLICY OF CARESS". SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON CHRISTOPHIDES' STATEMENT. WHILE ALL THE MAJOR NEWSPAPERS CARRIED FRONTPAGE REPORTS OF THE STATEMENT, SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SEPT. 30 REMARKS IN UNGA ON CYPRUS RECEIVED BACKPAGE COVERAGE IN EVERY PAPER. THE JUXTAPOSITION OF THE STORIES ONLY SERVED TO HIGHLIGHT THE CHRISTOPHIDES STATEMENT.

3. ON OCTOBER 1 I RAISED THE CHRISTOPHIDES CHARACTERIZATION OF AMERICAN POLICY WITH GOC FONOFF DIRGEN PELAGHIAS. I POINTED OUT THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SEPT 30 SPEECH TO UNGA ATTESTED THE PURPOSEFULNESS OF US ACTIONS ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE SPEECH HAD BEEN WARMLY AND PUBLICLY WELCOMED BY THE FONMIN OF GREECE. THE IDEA OF GOING BACK TO FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES HAD BEEN STRESSED BY PELAGHIAS HIMSELF DURING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT. COMING DAYS WOULD SEE A LOT OF EFFORT DEVOTED TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, INCLUDING A PROJECTED MEETING BETWEEN CHRISTOPHIDES AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. I NOTED, AND SAID PELAGHIAS COULD CONFIRM FROM HIS US VISIT, THAT THERE IS A SENSE OF CUMULATIVE IRRITATION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN USG OVER THE CYPRIOT PENCHANT PUBLICLY TO DERIDE US POLICY, FOR IMAGINED GAINS WITH GREEK CYPRIOT OPINION, WHILE PRIVATELY BESPEAKING MAXIMUM US ASSISTANCE. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, CHRISTOPHIDES' REMARK, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY EXTEMPORANEOUS, SEEMED TO ME MOST ILL-CONCEIVED. IT COULD WELL ADVERSELY EFFECT THE POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE IN NEW YORK FOR WHICH WE ALL HOPED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 03068 011711Z

4. PELAGHIAS PUT ON HIS MOST CONCERNED VOICE IN EXPRESSING REGRET AND SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH PRESIDENT MAKARIOS MEANS OF RECTIFYING THE PUBLIC IMPRESSION LEFT BY CHRISTOPHIDES' REMARK, PERHAPS BY SOME FAVORABLE GOVERNMENT REFERENCE TO THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT AS IT RELATED TO CYPRUS.

5. ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH, PELAGHIAS PERSONALLY EXPRESSED RESERVED APPROVAL. COMPARING THIS

YEAR'S STATEMENT WITH LAST, HE VIEWED THIS YEAR'S REFERENCE TO REDUCTION IN TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY THE TURKISH SIDE AS A POSITIVE EVOLUTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE CONSIDERED THE NEW LANGUAGE SUBSTITUTING FOR LAST YEAR'S PHRASE "REFLECT THE ECONOMIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY AND TAKE ACCOUNT OF ITS SELF-RESPECT" AS A GESTURE TOWARD THE TURKS.

6. AT THE END OF OUR CONVERSATION, PELAGHIAS SUGGESTED THAT I SUPPLEMENT HIS EFFORTS BY TAKING UP CHRISTOPHIDES' DEPARTURE REMARKS DIRECTLY WITH MAKARIOS AT AN APPOINTMENT I HAVE WITH HIM ON THE MORNING OF OCT 4. I INTEND TO DO SO. IF THE DEPT HAS ANY ADDITIONAL POINTS IT WOULD LIKE MADE AT THAT TIME, PLEASE ADVISE.

7. COMMENT: FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES IS GENERALLY VERY WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD THE US, AND HELPFUL. HOWEVER, I THINK THIS IS A GOOD OCCASION TO REMIND HIM ONCE AGAIN THAT WE DO NOT TAKE KINDLY TO THE CYPRIOT HABIT OF TWO-FACED BEHAVIOR (IN WHICH, OF COURSE, CHRISTOPHIDES IS ONLY TAKING HIS CUE FROM HIS MASTER). FOR A VARIETY OF GOOD REASONS, TACTICAL INCLUDED, IT WOULD BE NO BAD THING TO SHOW SOME APPROPRIATE REACTION IN THE COURSE OF CHRISTOPHIDES' NEW YORK VISIT.
CRAWFORD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI03068
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760370-1032
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761093/aaaadchx.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOC FOREIGN MINISTER DERIDES U.S. CYPRUS POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, CY, US, (CHRISTOPHIDES, IOANNIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006